

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, BU (GANCHEVA, VERA LALEVA)

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITOR: DEBRIEFING

REF: STATE 140722

1. AFTER MUTUAL VACATIONS AND HEAVY WORKLOADS, OUTGOING P&C OFFICER COFMAN HAS BEEN ABLE TO MEET WITH GANCHEVA, WHO SUMMED UP U.S. AS COUNTRY "WITH MANY POSITIVE FEATURES AND MANY CONTRADICTIONS." GANCHEVA HAS:

A. MADE THREE APPEARANCES OF THREE-FOUR MINUTES EACH ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON NEWS MAGAZINE "INFORMATION DIARY," DURING WHICH SHE DISCUSSED (1) HOLLYWOOD, (2) U.S. ARCHITECTURE, ESPECIALLY "MARGINAL ARCHITECTURE" (E.G., "SELF-MADE HOUSES"), WHICH IMPRESSED HER GREATLY, AND (3) BOB DYLAN, JOAN BAEZ AND PRESENT STATUS OF U.S. PROTEST SONGS.

B. PUBLISHED THREE ARTICLES IN "LITERATUREN FRONT," WEEKLY ORGAN OF UNION OF BULGARIAN WRITERS, COMPRISING A "GLOSSARY" OF IMPRESSIONS OF THE U.S. TRANSLATIONS ARE BEING POUCHED TO CU/EE.

2. SHE ALSO PLANS:

A. TWO ARTICLES IN HER MAGAZINE, "OTECHESTVO," ABOUT AMERICA IN GENERAL. (CU/EE: FOR THESE GANCHEVA AWAITS SLIDES WHICH HER ESCORT, MRS. MARGARET MARK, WAS TO HAVE DEVELOPED AND MAILED FROM WASHINGTON TO HER HOME
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ADDRESS. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT THIS HAS BEEN DONE.)

B. THREE ARTICLES IN "NARODNA KULTURA," WEEKLY ORGAN OF GOB MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COMMITTEE FOR ART AND CULTURE, ON AMERICAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY.

C. ANOTHER ARTICLE IN "LITERATUREN FRONT" ON AMERICAN LITERATURE.

3. GANCHEVA CONFIRMED REF PARAS 3 AND 4, ADDING THAT SHE WAS PARTICULARLY HAPPY VPS PROGRAM OFFICER MARGOLIUS OVERCAME HER INITIAL OBJECTIVES TO VISITING HOUSTON AND MINNEAPOLIS. SHE PRONOUNCED PROGRAM "PERFECTLY ARRANGED...LIKE CLOCKWORK" AND COULD OFFER CRITICISM ON ONLY ONE MINOR POINT: HOTEL RADISSON IN MINNEAPOLIS WAS BELOW AVERAGE.

4. GANCHEVA ALSO WAS IMPRESSED BY MINNEAPOLIS CHILDREN'S THEATER ("FANTASTIC" IN BOTH FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMING) AND IS ARRANGING FOR THEATER DIRECTOR CHARLES DONOHUE (SP?) TO RECEIVE INVITATION TO CHILDREN'S THEATER FESTIVAL THIS SEPTEMBER IN SOFIA. (USIA:ICS: REQUEST YOU CONSIDER DONOHUE AS POSSIBLE VOLSPKR.) BUT "MOST IMPRESSIVE" WAS NEW YORK, BECAUSE OF ITS OFFERINGS IN ALL FIELDS OF CULTURE.

5. IN SUMMARY, GANCHEVA SEEMS TO HAVE HAD OUTSTANDING U.S. PROGRAM, WAS STRONGLY IMPRESSED AND IS PASSING HER IMPRESSIONS -- GOOD AND BAD -- ALONG TO COLLEAGUES AND BULGARIAN PUBLIC.

6. FYI: GANCHEVA'S FATHER, LALYU GANCHEV, IS NEWLY NAMED MEMBER OF COUNCIL OF STATE, A SECRETARY OF AGRARIAN UNION AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN. HER MOTHER IS EDITOR OF "LADA," BULGARIAN WOMAN'S FASHION MAGAZINE. END FYI.
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